

Politics: *Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed, there are many rewards. If you disgrace yourself you can always write a book. —Ronald Reagan, 40th U.S. President*

Opinion

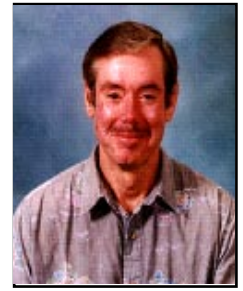
HED palm tree to keep swaying

Some things will never change. A sunny day in Hawaii, a project under design or construction, a CEFMS glitch that causes anxiety and useless effort . . . take them all to the bank because you can count on them. But you can add this to the list: a command information publication called *The Pacific Connection* that serves Army Corps of Engineers employees in Hawaii. The newspaper has shifted slightly, along with the split of district and division. If you look closely at the folio and elsewhere in the newspaper you may note that HED has supplanted POD in many locations. You'll also see a section distinct from the rest of the newspaper that is devoted to that "regional view" that marks the Pacific Ocean Division. That's new. But what isn't new is the readership. It's hardly changed at all, although it is worth noting that some sections of the newspaper may have greater appeal to a smaller group of people than before.

We've spent a lot of time and effort dealing with

change over the past several years. For a moment, let's celebrate tradition, history and stability. The many folks who were busy with engineering design and construction in Hawaii and the Pacific before are still involved and we're still writing about it. That should provide a little bit of comfort even though we all know that the cost to ride The Bus or make a phone call or fly to a neighbor island is bound to go up. We just don't know how soon and how much.

But at the risk of trying to be all things to all people the *Pacific Connection* will extend its coverage while keeping its name and most of its mission because in the final analysis fate and restructuring has dictated that we keep the bulk of our readership as well. The Pacific Ocean Division is still here and an important part of our coverage. But if you look at what has become the *Pacific Connection's* signature masthead and logo, and you note the palm tree, just remember that we scratched our heads for a long time debating what to do with it. Now we know. We'll just keep it.



**The View
from Here**
by Larry Hawthorne



TENTH ANNUAL POD RETIREE DAY, April 7, 1998 — Following a morning gathering and briefings at building 230, Ohana Club members enjoyed a lunch program at Tradewinds on Hickam Air Force Base. POD Commander Col. (P) Carl A. Strock welcomed Brig. Gen. Paul Chinen, retired North Atlantic Division Commander, and recent POD/HED retirees into the club. This traditional group photograph commemorates this year's event. Kneeling, left to right, Evelyn Kam (CO), Milton Smith (CO), Fred Hirayama (CO), Alvin Ihori (HAO), Harry Aoki (CO). Standing, left to right, Mrs. Carl A. (Julie) Strock, Col. (P) Strock (POD Commander), Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves (HED Commander), Lt. Col. Todd Barnes (HED), Ellen Ikeda (DDE), Brig. Gen. Paul Chinen (CENAD), Maxyne Matsuoka (ED), Edward Ikuma (JED), Harvey Minsky (CO), Virgie Chong (CPAC, guest), Stanley Glatt (RM), Arthur Goo (ED), Aida McKeen (CT), Bob Thomas (LO), Bruce Swafford (CO), Wally Hong (ED), Sanford Haseyama (CO), Col. James Kennedy (ED), Bill Paresa (CO), Kim Akagi (RE), Henry Sato (ED), Jack Kaneshiro (JED-OA), Thomas Tam (CO), Bobby Chong (ET), Leonora Endrina (PP), Charles Ono (HAO), Clara Murasaki (RE), Tad Okada (ED), Phyllis Shibuya (RM), Ellen Higa (HAO), Mamoru Kimoto (guest), Bessie Uchiuni (ED), Janet Setogawa (CO), Marian Yamashiro (ED), Col. Karl Piotrowski (DDE), Elsie Kamikawa (RM), Clarice Choy (RM), Carol Walker (RM), Franklin Chung (RE), Sue Yamamoto (RM), Jimmy Lee (EM), Lorraine Katsumoto (HAO), Shizuo Shintaku (HAO), Rose Lee (ED), Frank Schafer (IM), Sadie Inouye (RE). Also attending but not in this photograph were John Pelowski (ED) and guests Mrs. James (Flora) Kennedy and Donald Inouye. Photo by Jim Dung.